Express Mail Label No.: <u>EL 827036310US</u> Attorney Docket No.: 2558B-059411US

Date of Deposit: July 13, 2001

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Examiner:

Michael I. WATKINS et al.

Art Unit:

Application No.:

Filed: Herwith

For: 1

MULTIPLEX FLOW ASSAYS

PREFERABLY WITH MAGNETIC PARTICLES AS SOLID PHASE

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This Preliminary Amendment accompanies the divisional patent application filed herewith. Prior to examination, please make the following amendments.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

On page 1 change the paragraph "CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION" to read:

This application is a division of application serial no. 09/302,920 filed April 30, 1999, which is a continuation-in-part of application serial no. 08/972,563 filed November 18, 1997, the contents of which are incorporated herein by reference.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-20. Claims 21-49 remain for examination.

Respectfully submitted,

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Reg. No. 28,2

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MHH/mcd SF 1246722 v1

PATENT

Patent Application Filed: Herewith PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT: Page 2

MARKED UP VERSION SHOWING CHANGES

This application is a division of application serial no. 09/302,920 filed April 30, 1999, which is a continuation-in-part of [co-pending] application serial no. 08/972,563[,] filed November 18, 1997, the contents of which are incorporated herein by reference.